

Edward Livingston to Andrew Jackson, September 21, 1814, from Correspondence of Andrew Jackson. Edited by John Spencer Bassett.

New Orleans, September 21, 1814.

Sir, As Chairman of a Committee of the Citizens of New Orleans I have the honor of Enclosing a letter on the subject of the Defence of this place which will undoubtedly meet your attention.

In reflecting on the subject of the communication I now make, I have thought that as your principal Duties would probably detain you in Florida that it might be useful for the service if you had a person here who with the title of your aid might give you intelligence of the state of the country, its preparations and means of Defence and other points essential to be known, who could distribute your Orders, carry on such correspondence as you might direct and in short perform all the Duties of secretary and aid except those which would require an attendance in your family. the importance of this place and the nature of its population perhaps might render such an appointment useful and should you be of this opinion and think that I could aid the public operations in this capacity you may command my services. Pay is no object, and I am past the age when feathers and epaulets flatter the vanity, but I am desirous [of] rendering such services to my country as I can without abandoning a place where my profession is necessary to the support of my family. ¹

¹ See Jackson's reply, vol. II., p. 65.

Suffer me Sir to assure you of the high respect with which I have the honor to be

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